

800-492-0444

HARBOR HOUSE SEAFOOD, INC.

Fish - Oysters - Crabs Chesapeake's Best Brand Shellfish 504 BRIDGEVILLE ROAD SEAFORD, DELAWARE 19973

January 31, 2005

Country of Origin Labeling Program
Room 2092-S
Agricultural Marketing Service
USDA Stop 0249
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-0249

RE: Docket No.-LS-03-04

Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling of Fish and Shellfish

Interim Final Rule

Attn: Bill Sessions

Dear Bill,

I would like to submit my comments to you on the Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling for Fish and Shellfish, USDA final rule. The change from the original definition would mean we would have to change our current packaging and printing plates, in addition to having new ones made to reflect "wild caught/"farm raised". This alone is quite a costly venture. The "oysters" come from either a leased bottom bed(farm raised) or public bottom bed (wild-caught), which in many cases are side by side. It would be very difficult to distinguish between the two, since they are not only harvested the same way they are also alike in every way. The bureaucracy of the additional record keeping and paperwork and trying to keep the product separate would be ludicrous.

I would like to recommend that for now we maintain the same definition as we have been using. I wish to thank you in advance for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Mark H. Bryan

President